Claims

1. A method of operating a receiver, the method comprising:

decoding transmission parameter information from a signal; and

determining from the decoded transmission parameter information if the signal carries time-sliced elementary streams.

2. A method as claimed in claim 1, comprising disregarding the signal in the event of a negative determination

3. A method as claimed in either preceding claim, comprising determining from the decoded transmission parameter information if the signal relates to an Internet Protocol data cast network.

4. A method as claimed in any preceding claim, comprising determining from the decoded transmission parameter information whether the signal has a different framing structure.

5. A method as claimed in any of claims 1 to 3, comprising determining from the decoded transmission parameter information whether the signal has an forward error correction framing structure.

6. A method as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the transmission parameter information is transmitted on a lower level than service information.

7. A receiver arranged to operate in a network, the receiver comprising:

a decoder for decoding transmission parameter information from a signal; and

a determiner for determining from decoded transmission parameter information if the signal carries time-sliced elementary streams.

8 A receiver as claimed in claim 7, comprising a controller for disregarding a signal associated with a negative determination.

9. A receiver as claimed in claim 7 or claim 8, wherein the transmission parameter information is transmitted on a lower level than service information.

10. A receiver as claimed in any of claims 7 to 9, in which the determiner is arranged for determining from the decoded transmission parameter information whether the signal has a different framing structure.

11. A receiver as claimed in any of claims 7 to 9, in which the determiner is arranged for determining from the decoded transmission parameter information whether the signal has an forward error correction framing structure.

12. A receiver as claimed in any of claims 7 to 11, in which the determiner is arranged for determining from the decoded transmission parameter information if the signal relates to an Internet protocol data cast network.

13. A method of forming a signal for transmission, the method comprising:

creating service information;

creating transmission parameter information including an indication of whether the signal carries time-sliced elementary streams; and

including the service information on one level with the transmission parameter on a lower level to form the signal.

14. A method as claimed in claim 13, in which the transmission parameter information creating step comprises including an indication that the signal has a different framing structure.

15. A method as claimed in claim 13, in which the transmission parameter information creating step comprises including an indication that the signal has a forward error correction framing structure.

16. A method as any of claims 13 to 15, comprising creating the transmission parameter information including an indication of whether the signal relates to an Internet Protocol data cast network.

17. Apparatus for forming a signal for transmission, the apparatus being arranged for creating service information, for creating transmission parameter including an indication of whether the signal carries time-sliced elementary streams, and for including the service information on one level with the transmission parameter information on a lower level to form the signal.

18. Apparatus as claimed in claim 17, in which the transmission parameter information an indication of whether the signal relates to an Internet protocol data cast network.

19. A transmission parameter signalling data signal comprising a predetermined number of data bits defined over consecutive orthogonal frequency division multiplex symbols, the data signal comprising at a predetermined location a group of one or more information bits having a state dependent on whether a signal to which the data signal relates carries time-sliced elementary streams.

20. A data signal as claimed in claim 19, in which the group of information bits has a state dependent on whether the data signal relates to a network of the Internet Protocol data cast type.

21. A data signal as claimed in claim 19 or claim 20, in which the group of information bits has a state dependent on whether the time-sliced elementary streams have a different framing structure.

22. A data signal as claimed in any of claims 19 to 21, in which the group of information bits comprises two bits indicating whether the corresponding signal carries time-sliced elementary streams and whether the carries time-sliced elementary streams have a different framing structure.

23. A data signal as claimed in claim 21 or claim 22, in which the different framing structure is a forward error correction framing structure.

24. A method comprising generating a data signal as claimed in any of claims 19 to 23.

25. Apparatus for forming a signal for transmission, the apparatus being arranged to form a signal according to any of claims 19 to 23.